

REMARKS

Claims 15-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-14 are canceled and claim 15-28 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,670,792 to Utsugi et al. ("Utsugi"). Claims 1-14 are cancelled. Accordingly, the rejection will be addressed as if applied to new claims 15-28. Entry of the new claims is proper in view of the attached Request for Continued Examination.

New independent claims 15-21, 23, and 26-27 recite an opposite electrode that "overlaps the plurality of common power supply lines," the opposite electrode "being formed for the plurality of pixel electrodes." This feature is supported, for example, by paragraph [0077] and Figs. 13G and 14B.

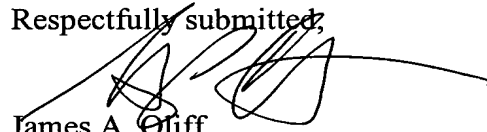
Utsugi does not disclose or suggest such a feature, nor would such a feature have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, based upon Utsugi.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new independent claims 15-21, 23, and 26-27 are patentably distinguishable over Utsugi. Claims 22, 24-25 and 28 depend from one of independent claims 15-21, 23, and 27, respectively, and are likewise patentably distinguishable over the applied art for at least their dependence on allowable base claims, as well as for additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 15-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Stephen P. Catlin
Registration No. 36,101

JAO:JMH

Date: March 14, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--